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However, in view of the report of the commission, the use of water from the springs in question was suppressed, the contaminated barracks were abandoned and disinfected, and all the troops that had occupied them, except those ill at the hospital, were sent to a distant camp.

Nothing of an epidemic character has awakened so much interest throughout France for several years. The epidemic is considered here as having been quite malignant, at least among the troops, if not in the city of Brest.

#### GERMANY.

##### *Report from Berlin—Plague and cholera in various countries.*

Consul-General Mason reports, February 29, as follows:

##### *Plague.*

*Egypt.*—During the period from January 30 to February 13, 1 case of plague was registered in Egypt, viz, in Alexandria, on February 8.

*British South Africa.*—In Cape Colony, during the week ended January 23, no fresh cases of plague were reported, but plague-infected rats continue to be found in Port Elizabeth, East London, and Knysna.

*Mauritius.*—During the period from December 4 to 31, 1903, there were registered on the island 274 cases of plague (with 165 deaths). During the first week of January there occurred 55 cases of plague (with 27 deaths).

##### *Plague and cholera.*

*British India.*—In Calcutta, during the week ended January 16, 16 persons died of cholera and 12 persons died of plague.

#### INDIA.

##### *Report from Calcutta—Precautions against the spread of plague—Circular.*

Passed Assistant Surgeon Sprague, at Calcutta, reports, February 18, as follows:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a circular to be printed in the Hindee and Urdu dialects for distribution in the plague-infected quarters of this city.

The efforts of the local health authorities to control the disease by the removal of dwellings in congested centers, which has been going on for the past two or three years and is still in progress, and by disinfection and other measures may be showing some effect. At any rate, the death rate at present is only about one-fourth what it was at the corresponding season last year.

#### CIRCULAR.

##### PLAGUE DEPARTMENT—PRECAUTIONS AGAINST THE SPREAD OF PLAGUE.

1. Do not sleep on the bare ground at night, but on a charpoy, box, or shelf.
2. Do not touch a dead rat with the hands or eat grain in which dead rats have been found.
3. Throw outside the dwelling all waste which rats will eat or upon which flies will settle.
4. Avoid the breath and do not touch the face of a person dying or dead from plague.